

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

MAURICE HARRIS,

Defendant.

No. 13-cr-30059-DRH

MEMORANDUM & ORDER

HERNDON, Chief Judge:

This matter was referred to United States Magistrate Judge Stephen C. Williams for the specific purpose of conducting a change of plea for defendant Maurice Harris, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636, Local Rule 72.1(b)(2) and defendant Harris (Doc. 22). Pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11, the change of plea hearing was held on February 6, 2014 (Doc. 20). During the change of plea, defendant Harris pled guilty to Count 1 of the Indictment following a thorough colloquy with Judge Williams. Thereafter, Judge Williams issued a Report and Recommendation (“the Report”) recommending that the Court accept defendant Harris’ plea of guilty (Doc. 24).

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B), the parties were allowed fourteen days to file written objections. As of this date, neither party has filed an objection. Therefore, the Court **ADOPTS** the Report in its entirety. Thus, based on the record in the case, the recommendation of the Magistrate Judge, the

consent of the defendant to plead before the magistrate without subsequent objection, it is the finding of the Court in the case of *United States v. Maurice Harris*, that defendant Harris was fully competent and capable of entering an informed plea, that defendant Harris was aware of the nature of the charges and the consequences of the plea, and that the plea of guilty was a knowing and voluntary plea supported by an independent basis in fact containing each of the essential elements of the offense. Accordingly, the Court **ACCEPTS** the guilty plea and **ADJUDGES** defendant Maurice Harris **GUILTY** on the charge in the Indictment. The Court **REMINDS** the parties that this matter is set for sentencing on May 30, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed this 24th day of February, 2014.

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David R. Herndon
Date: 2014.02.24
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Chief Judge
United States District Court